

# MEMORANDUM

TO: Modeling Task Force Members

FROM: Mike Ainsworth

SUBJECT: Meeting Summary

## MODELING TASK FORCE MEETING

May 22, 2002 - Wednesday  
9:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Southern California  
Association of Governments  
818 W. 7th Street, 12th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
Room – San Bernardino A&B

### Attendees

Chaushie Chu	Gerry Bare
Mike Ainsworth	Ty Schuiling
Ed Humenik	Bob Goedhart
Ed Yotter	Tony Van Haagen
Ron Taira	Deng Bang Lee
Taimour Tanavoli	Paul Allen
Luke Cheng	Rena Lum
Dale Iwai	Robert Farley
Firooz Hamedani	Tony Calvillo
Kathy Hsaio	Keith Killough
Chad Lambirth	Paul Fagen
Bob Dulla	Tom Carlson
Gene Hong	Molly Hoffman
Ashwani Vasishth	Teresa Wang
Frank Wen	Sylvia Patsaoursas
Huasha Liu	Paul Burke
Arun Kuppam	Arnie Sherwood
Kristin Wilson	Francis Lee

Joe Vizcarra  
Barbara Beck

R. Mike Labudzki  
Chao Wei

## **Draft Meeting Summary**

- 1.0 Call to Order
- 2.0 Public Comment Period – No Comments
- 3.0 Introductions
- 4.0 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Summary - Approved

### **Information Items:**

- 5.1 Regional Speed Study – Tom Carlson and Bob Dulla of Sierra Research distributed a handout and provide a presentation entitled “ Evaluation of Travel Model Speeds and Performance of Existing Monitoring Systems in the South Coast”. The purpose of the study was to: 1) evaluate existing sources of real world speed data in the SCAG Region, 2) compare observed speed data to speeds produced by SCAG ‘s Model, and 3) track long-term changes and trends in network performance. The study concluded that there was no single source of reliable speed data. PeMS is an attractive source for freeway speeds, however further refinement is necessary of the g-factor algorithms and data filtering is needed before it could be used in the validation of the Regional Transportation Model. There is currently no viable source of existing arterial speed data. The recommendations from the study included: 1) conducting a sample size analysis to define the minimum dataset required to support model validation, 2) coordinating with Caltrans and Berkley/PATH to investigate mechanisms to improve the PeMS speed output, and 3) develop a program to regularly collect speed measurements on arterials. Deng Bang Lee told the group that SCAG’s OWP for FY 02-03 included funding to begin gathering speed data.

**Recommendation:** SCAG should investigate the relationship between density/volume/speed and gather data to validate the relationship.

**Recommendation:** SCAG should investigate post-processing techniques to adjust raw speeds from the model.

- 5.2 Weekend Motor Vehicle Inventory – Paul Allen of the ARB provided a presentation explaining ARB’s methodology for calculating weekend emissions. The rate of emission decrease over time has been lower on weekends than during the workweek. The ARB is being asked to show attainment for the weekend period. Since SCAG’s Model produces only weekday volumes and speeds, the ARB has developed a methodology to estimate weekend travel. WIMs (Weigh in Motion) count data from Caltrans is used to develop factors to convert weekend autos and truck travel to weekend travel data.

**Recommendation:** Additional count locations are needed to augment the limited number of WIMs count stations.

- 5.3 Growth Trends and Forecasts – Frank Wen of SCAG provided a presentation on growth trends, forecasts, demographic fundamentals and implications for long-term transportation planning. The report examines the effects of the Region’s aging population on the work force and economic growth. The report then looks at the consequences of the growth forecast on future transportation planning.

**Recommendation:** SCAG needs to integrate this information into the growth forecast and transportation modeling process.

- 5.4 Year 2000 Post Census Travel Survey Status – Paul Burke provided the group an update on the Travel Survey. The majority of the recruitment has been accomplished and 83% of the retrieval has been completed. The Survey because of budgetary problems is currently on hold. The Survey was originally scheduled for completion by June 30, 2002, however because the data expansion requires census data (scheduled for release this summer) the project completion will likely be delayed until late summer. The next step once the Survey is completed is to develop programs to apply the survey data for modeling applications.

- 5.5 Regional Cordon Survey – Gerry Bare provided the group a status of the Regional Cordon Survey. Four of seventeen sites have been surveyed. The turn-around time still exceeds the five-day target specified in the contract. Because of SCAG budgetary problems, work on the project has been halted until the beginning of the next fiscal year (FY 02-03 SCAG OWP cycle). The project TAC will work with the Consultant to select a date to restart the project.

## 6.0 Open Discussion and Other Business

**2002 RTIP** – Sylvia Patsouras of SCAG provided the group a brief overview of the 2002 RTIP. The 2002 RTIP is scheduled for adoption at the August Regional Council Meeting. SCAG staff will present a more complete description of the RTIP and a summary of the analysis at the next Modeling Task Force Meeting.

**EMFAC** – Ed Yotter (ARB) announced that the current version of EMFAC (Version 2.08) is on the ARB’s web site. The ARB will be conducting a workshop on July 13 in El Monte to present the next version of EMFAC.

- 7.0 Schedule and Agenda for Next Meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for July 24, 2002.

## 8.0 Adjournment